

CONSTITUTION  
AND  
BY - LAWS  
OF THE  
**Old Dominion Rifles,**  
OF ALEXANDRIA,  
VIRGINIA.

Organized December 6th, 1860.



ALEXANDRIA :  
WHITE & BALDWIN PRINTERS,  
1861.



CONSTITUTION

AND

BY - LAWS

OF THE

Old Dominion Rifles,

OF ALEXANDRIA,

VIRGINIA.

Organized December 6th, 1860.



ALEXANDRIA :

WHITE & BALDWIN PRINTERS,

1861.



*George Washington Flowers  
Memorial Collection*

DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

ESTABLISHED BY THE  
FAMILY OF  
COLONEL FLOWERS

# CONSTITUTION.

## PREAMBLE.

The undersigned, citizens of Virginia, prompted by a desire to contribute in the most effectual manner to the vindication of the honor of our State, the preservation of the liberties and inalienable rights transmitted to us by our patriot fathers and the protection of the lives, liberty and property of our fellow citizens—for the safety of which we pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor; being also deeply impressed with the truth that a well organized and disciplined militia is the best defence against foreign invasion, civil commotion and lawless violence; in order to further and cultivate a martial spirit amongst our people, have formed ourselves into a MILITARY CORPS, and do hereby ordain and establish for our government the following Constitution and By-Laws.

## ARTICLE I.

The name of the company shall be the

**OLD DOMINION RIFLES,**

## ARTICLE II.

SEC. 1.—The Commissioned Officers (who shall be chosen in the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of Virginia) shall consist of a Captain and

First, Second and Third Lieutenants, which grades shall only be vacated by death, resignation or sentence of a Court Martial, said sentence to be confirmed unless reversed by a vote of two thirds of the company.

SEC. 2.—The non-Commissioned Officers of the company shall consist of not more than five (5) Sergeants, and four (4) Corporals, who shall be appointed by the Commanding Officer of the Company, which appointment shall continue until death, resignation or sentence of reduction to the ranks, or of dismissal by Court Martial. The sentence of the Court to be enforced, unless an appeal be sustained by a two third vote.

### ARTICLE III.

SEC. 1.—The Civil Officers of the Company shall be a Surgeon, Quartermaster, Secretary, Treasurer and Armorer, for which officers there shall be an annual election on the First Monday of December, and a majority of all the members present shall constitute a choice,

### ARTICLE IV.

SEC. 1.—This shall be a joint stock or consolidated company. The equipments, uniforms and accoutrements of every description shall belong to, and be under the sole control of the Company, and not of individual members. Resolved, however, that the Swords, Epaulettes and Sashes of the Commissioned Officers shall be purchased by them and belong to them individually.

SEC. 2.—Each member upon being elected and signing the Constitution, shall pay unto the Treasurer the full cost of a uniform, and if not able so to do, then he is to pay in as much as his means will

allow. It is left to the honor of the members to comply with the spirit of this article.

## ARTICLE V.

SEC. 1.—The Company in order to uniform and equip completely and to defray other necessary expenses shall have power to issue certificates of indebtedness of not more than twenty dollars (\$20) each, bearing six (6) per cent interest, and payable semi-annually. Said interest to be paid out of any money in the Treasury. Said certificates of debt not to exceed in amount two thousand (2000) dollars.

SEC. 1.—There shall be a Sinking Fund of ————dollars per month from the monthly dues collected set apart to reduce any debt incurred by issuing certificates.

SEC. 3.—The certificates of debt shall be signed by the Secretary, countersigned by the Treasurer and endorsed by the Commissioned Officers.

## ARTICLE VI.

SEC. 1.—There shall be attached to the Armory the ordinary fixtures of a Gymnasium, and a Reading Room, as means for the better development of the moral, intellectual, and physical natures of the members of this Company.

## ARTICLE VII.

SEC. 1.—There shall be a Regular Meeting on the First Monday of each month.

SEC. 2.—Elections to fill vacancies that may occur shall be held at the regular monthly meetings.

SEC. 3.—By Laws not inconsistent with the Constitution may be passed by a vote of three fourths of any meeting of the Company, consisting of not less than twenty-five (25) members.

## ARTICLE VIII.

Articles may be added and amendments may be made to the Constitution, by submitting such alteration or amendment, in writing, to any meeting of the Company, to be referred by them to a Committee, who shall report on the same at a subsequent meeting, which shall be held at a period not less than fifteen (15) days from the appointment of said Committee. For this meeting special notice shall be served, and no alteration or amendment shall be adopted, except by a vote of three-fourths of such meeting, which meeting shall consist of not less than thirty (30) members.

---

## BY-LAWS.

### LAW 1.

#### UNIFORM.

The Uniform of the Company shall be of Virginia made, Cadet Grey Cloth, a Jacket of the pattern of the Hungarian Riflemen; the Zouave Pants; the Cap after the style of the French Infantry; all trimmed with Green, and the Virginia State Buttons.

### LAW 2.

#### MEETINGS.

SEC. 1.—There shall be held meetings of the Company on every Monday and Thursday evenings throughout the year, at which the roll shall be called by the senior non-Commissioned officer present, at seven and a half (7½) o'clock during the winter, and during the summer months at eight (8) o'clock, P. M. But at any meeting for drill



or parade, business may be transacted (except in those classes of cases for which the Constitution makes other provision) and at the discretion of the Commanding Officer, any meeting for drill can be devoted to recruits.

SEC. 2.—The Commanding Officer shall at any time upon the written request of ten members convene the company.

SEC. 3.—At all meetings for Drill, the members will appear in full Fatigue Dress.

SEC. 4.—At all meetings for business, the senior Commissioned Officer present shall take the chair, and the senior non-commissioned officer present call the roll.

SEC. 5.—At every meeting of this Company, one Commissioned, one non-Commissioned officer, and twenty-five (25) privates shall constitute a quorum.

### LAW 3.

#### COMMITTEES.

SEC. 1.—There shall be chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting, a Recruiting Committee, a Finance Committee and a Room Committee, to consist of three (3) members each, who shall commence their duties on the Thursday following their election. A majority of all the members present shall be necessary to a choice.

SEC. 2.—It shall be the duty of the Recruiting Committee, when an application for membership in this Company is received, to examine into the qualifications of such applicant—his ability to perform the duties required of him, to inquire into and ascertain his character for morality and gentlemanly conduct, and to report in detail the result of their investigations. The member proposing a recruit shall act as a member of the committee for the time being.

SEC. 3.—It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to examine from time to time the book of the Company and vouchers for money paid; to ascertain the condition of receipt and expenditure, the balance that may be due by members, and to make a detailed report semi-annually of the respective amounts due by each member. They shall also examine and pass upon all bills due by the Company before payment thereof.

SEC. 4.—It shall be the duty of the Room and Armory Committee to take entire charge of the same, and to see that the same is kept in suitable order and repair.

CLAUSE 2.—The Armory shall be closed at eleven (11) o'clock, P. M., or within one hour after drill or meeting, and no member shall remain in the room after that time, except by permission of the Committee or the Commandant.

CLAUSE 3.—No member shall handle or interfere with any of the arms or equipments except they be his own, unless by permission of the owner thereof, or the Commandant.

CLAUSE 4.—A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

### SECRETARY.

SEC. 5.—Clause 1.—It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings of all meetings in books kept for that purpose, (which books he shall bring or send to every regular meeting together with all other books relating to the affairs of the Company in his custody, under a penalty of two (2) dollars for each offence; and to keep a just, and true account of all fines, dues, and assessments accruing to the Company. He shall also collect the same and pay them over to the Treas-

urer, whose receipt for the same shall be a sufficient voucher.

CLAUSE 2.—He shall make a quarterly return of all members six months in arrears, and state the amount due from each delinquent.

CLAUSE 3.—He shall serve every member with a written notice of his election into the Company.

CLAUSE 4.—He shall surrender the books to the Finance Committee upon the requisition thereof, and for his services shall be exempt from dues.

### **TREASURER.**

SEC. 6 —It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep correct accounts of all money's received or paid by him on account of the Company in books kept for the purpose. He shall pay all bills of the Company after they have been endorsed by the Finance Committee, and report at every Monday meetings the state of the Company fund. He shall surrender his books to the Finance Committee upon requisition thereof.

### **LAW 4.**

#### **COURT-MARTIAL.**

SEC. 1.—At each annual meeting there shall be a Court-Martial consisting of one Commissioned officer, one non-Commissioned officer and three privates elected by a vote of two thirds of the members present, whose duties shall be to take cognizance of all cases arising from a violation of these By-Laws, the Constitution, and of the rules necessary to the maintenance of the character of the Company before the enemy and in the eyes of our citizens. This Court shall convene on the first Monday in every January, March, May, July, September, November and December, at such hour and place as shall not conflict with the regular bus-

ness of the Company. But the President may convene the Court at any other time. The Secretary of the Company shall act as Recorder of the Court, and in his absence the President may appoint one of the members *pro tem*. The President shall be entitled to the casting vote.

CLAUSE 2.—It shall require the votes of two-thirds of the Company to set aside, or alter the decision of the Court.

CLAUSE 3.—All returns, excuses, and statements to the Court shall be on honor and the members thereof shall, on honor, well and truly try and determine such matters as come under their jurisdiction, and impose and enact such fines and penalties as any member of the Company may be subject to pay, according to the provision of the By-Laws.

THE RECORDER shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Court, make out all notices to delinquents to appear before said Court, as the President thereof shall direct, and deliver the same to the Orderly Sergeant for service; to serve all notices that he shall be directed to serve by the President, and to make returns within five (5) days to the Company of all fines that may be assessed by the Court.

THE COURT shall appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms, whose duty it shall be to preserve order at all meetings of the Court, under the direction of the President thereof.

CLAUSE 4.—In cases where members shall be fined by default, the Court may remit the fine in all, or in part, if a sufficient excuse be rendered on or before the next regular meeting.

CLAUSE 5.—Any member considering himself aggrieved by a decision of the Court-Martial shall be allowed an appeal to the Company, at any reg-

ular meeting thereof, but it shall require the consent of two-thirds of the members present to annul or modify such decision.

CLAUSE 6.—The majority of the Court-Martial shall constitute a quorum thereof.

#### LAW 5.

### COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

SEC. 1.—The Commandant shall be by virtue of his office, a member of all committees, and may in the absence from the city of any member of the Court-Martial, or of any of the Committees, fill the vacancy *pro tem*.

SEC. 2.—Any Officer using language, or conducting himself in a manner, unbecoming an Officer and a gentleman, at drill, or meeting of the Company of any description, may be presented to the Court-Martial in written charges or specifications by any member of the Company.

#### LAW 6.

### NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

SEC. 1.—CLAUSE 1.—It shall be the duty of each of the non-commissioned officers to keep a correct roll of the members with the residence of each, and to be provided with a roll at every meeting or parade of the Company; to attend the drills of the recruits in fatigue dress, with musket, bayonet and belt, when ordered to do so by the Commandant.

CLAUSE 2.—It shall be the duty of the Orderly Sergeant to arrange and divide the members of this Company into squads as nearly equal as may be, and to assign to each of the Corporals one of the said squads, on which he is to serve orders and notices; but the Orderly may make such alterations therein, as from time to time, may be neces-

sary, and in case of the sickness or absence from the city of either of the non-Commissioned officers, he may direct another of the non-Commissioned officers to serve the squad of the one who may be sick or absent from the city, and the said non-Commissioned officer shall serve the said squad as he shall be directed by the Orderly Sergeant.

• **CLAUSE 3.**—The Second Sergeant shall, upon any drill or parade, see that the equipments of the members are in good order, and report every delinquent to the Secretary.

**SEC. 4.**—No officer shall be elected to any office in this company except by a majority of all votes cast at the election, and unless he is free from indebtedness to the Company.

## **LAW 7**

### **OF MEMBERS.**

**SEC. 1.**—The admission of members into this Company shall be by ballot, and if five votes at any such election, shall be in the negative, the applicant shall not be elected.

**CLAUSE 2.**—Every member while in uniform, or wearing any part thereof, shall be held responsible to the Company for his conduct.

**CLAUSE 3.**—For defraying the necessary expenses of the Company, each member (except the Corporals and Secretary) shall pay to the Treasurer twenty cents at every monthly meeting—Commissioned Officers shall pay double dues.

**CLAUSE 4.**—It shall be the duty of each member of this Company, upon changing his residence or the place at which he may have directed his orders to be served, to notify the Orderly Sergeant within three days thereafter.

**CLAUSE 5.**—Every member who shall be absent

from three consecutive drills without being able to give a sufficient excuse, shall be returned to the Company for expulsion.

CLAUSE 6.—No member, who shall be six (6) months in arrears for any fines, dues or assessments, shall have any voice or vote in the Company until he has balanced his account in the Company's books; and if any member shall neglect to settle his accounts after that period, he shall be returned to the Company for expulsion.

## LAW 8.

### EXPULSION.

SEC. 1.—Clause 1.—No member shall be expelled from this Company except by a resolution adopted by two thirds of the members present at any regular meeting thereof.

CLAUSE 2.—When any member shall be reported for expulsion, his case shall lie over for action until the next or such subsequent meeting as the Company may direct, and the Secretary shall cause to be served upon him, or at the place he may have directed his notices to be left, a written order to appear and show cause, if any he has, why expulsion should not ensue.

CLAUSE 3.—Any person who has been expelled from membership in this or any other Company, shall be considered dishonored, and shall not be eligible for re-election; and such expulsion shall in all cases be issued in order.

## LAW 9.

### DEATH OF MEMBERS.

SEC. 1.—In case of the death of a member of the Company, it shall be the duty of any member having knowledge thereof, to report the same to the

Commandant without delay, when he shall notify the members of the Company to attend the funeral in citizen's dress, or (if agreeable to the friends of the deceased) direct a parade in full uniform for the purpose of rendering funeral honors in the obsequies.

## LAW 10.

### HONORARY MEMBERS.

SEC. 1.—Any member whose time of service shall have expired, and who shall remain in the Company, shall be required to attend all regular meetings, or pay the fines and pay the amount of quarterly dues as other members, but shall not be compelled to attend any Company drills.

## LAW 11.

### FINES AND PENALTIES.

SEC. 1.—The following fines and penalties shall be incurred and imposed for not conforming with the By-Laws, except in cases where a satisfactory excuse be rendered as hereinbefore provided :

CLAUSE 1.—For not appearing within fifteen (15) minutes after roll-call, at any meeting of this Company for business or drill Ten cents; for appearing from fifteen to thirty minutes after roll-call at any such meeting 15 cents; and for appearing after that time, the same as for non-attendance.

CLAUSE 2.—For non-attendance at any meeting of this Company for drill, Twenty-five cents.

CLAUSE 3.—For non-attendance at any regular or special meeting of this Company for business, Twenty-five cents.

CLAUSE 4.—For appearing at any parade with deficient equipments or accoutrements, or if the same be in a soiled condition, Fifty cents.



CLAUSE 5.—For leaving the room at any meeting of the Company without permission of the Senior Officer present, or for leaving the Company at drill or parade, One Dollar.

CLAUSE 6.—For disobeying any order of the Commanding or presiding Officer at any meeting or drill of the Company, One Dollar.

CLAUSE 7.—For non-attendance before Court-Martial, when regularly notified, at the time specified, Fifty cents.

CLAUSE 8.—For disrespect to, or noisy or ungentlemanly conduct before the Court-Martial, Fifty cents.

CLAUSE 9.—For non-attendance at Company parades ordered in pursuance of a resolution of the Company, not more than one dollar, or less than fifty cents.

CLAUSE 10.—For appearing within fifteen minutes after the time specified and ordered for parade 10 cents, and for appearing from fifteen to thirty minutes after, 15 cents, for appearing after that time the same as for non-attendance.

CLAUSE 11.—For every neglect or failure on the part of any non-commissioned officer, to do or perform any or either of the duties that he may be required to do and perform by these By-Laws, he shall be fined Fifty cents.

CLAUSE 12.—For disorderly conduct or conduct unbecoming a Soldier, on parade, not more than One Dollar, nor less than Fifty cents.

CLAUSE 13.—For not notifying the Orderly of a change of residence, as hereinbefore required, Twenty-five cents.

CLAUSE 14.—For every neglect and failure on the part of the Secretary to do or perform any or either of the duties that he is requested to do or

perform by these By-Laws, he shall be fined One Dollar.

CLAUSE 15.—The members of the Court-Martial, for appearing within fifteen minutes after time specified in order, Twenty-five cents; and for appearing from fifteen to thirty minutes after, Thirty seven cents; for appearing after that time, the same as for non-attendance.

CLAUSE 16.—The members of all Committees, for non-attendance at any meeting of their respective Committees, which shall be called by the Chairman thereof, shall be fined Twenty five cents.

CLAUSE 17.—For every non-observance of the By Laws, for which a fine is not hereinbefore provided such fine or penalty as the Court-Martial shall impose

CLAUSE 18.—The Room Committee, for every default in attendance to duty, shall be fined One Dollar.

CLAUSE 19.—Any member who shall in any way deface the room, or in leaving, neglect to close and lock the door, shall be fined the amount of damage done.

## LAW 12.

### Amending and Revising By-Laws.

CLAUSE 1.—For the purpose of altering, revising or abolishing any Article of these By-Laws, a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary; and all amendments shall lie over for consideration at the next meeting, when, if agreed to by a similar vote, they shall be equally binding with the original.

CLAUSE 2.—Any Article, Section, or Superdivision of these By-Laws, may be suspended for any one Meeting, by the unanimous consent of all the members present at any such meeting.

## LAW 13.

## RESIGNATIONS.

SEC. 1.—No member's resignation can be accepted until he has paid up in full for his uniform, and all dues and fines to the Company.

CLAUSE 2.—In event of resignation, he will be allowed such amount for his uniform as the Company may agree upon.

## ROLL OF ACTIVE MEMBERS.

MONTGOMERY D. CORSE, Captain, *dear*  
 ARTHUR HERBERT, First Lieutenant,  
 WM. H. FOWLE, JR., Second Lieutenant,  
 D. F. FORREST, Third Lieutenant. *x*  
 WM. W. ZIMMERMAN, First Sergeant, *x*  
 GEORGE SIGGERS, Second Sergeant, *deed*  
 THOMAS S. SMOOT, Third Sergeant, *dear*  
 S. R. SHINN, Fourth Sergeant. *dear*  
 ALBION HURDLE, First Corporal,  
 J. E. GREEN, Second Corporal,  
 J. H. H. FOWLE, Third Corporal, *dear*  
 JAMES E. GRIMES, Fourth Corporal. *dear*  
 DR. HAROLD SNOWDEN, Surgeon. *dear*  
 THOS. V. FITZHUGH, Secretary.  
 FRANK WISE, Treasurer.

## PRIVATES.

William W. Adam,	✓	John S. Murray,	✓
Vernon W. Ashby,	✓	F. Willick Miller,	
John A. Arnold,	✓	John T. Mills,	✓
Harrison Appich,	✓	Frederick Moore,	✓
Samuel N. Aubinoe,	✓	Charles H. Murray,	
Edward F. Baldwin,		James Murphy,	
William H. Bacon,		James L. Norris,	
Edwin G. Barber,		Benjamin K. Plain,	✓

x ✓	Edwin S. Beachum,	James Posey,	
	James A. Cawood,	John Robinson,	
x	James Godwin.	James N. Rudd,	
	Louis E. Hough,	S. D. Smith,	x
x	William J. Higdon,	Woppelo Summers,	
	William J. Hall,	Orlando F. Smith,	
	Emory Howell,	J. B. Slaymaker,	
	James P. Jordan,	William H. H. Smith,	x
x	Arthur C. Kell,	Charles E. Tennesson,	x
x	John E. Krause,	Charles H. Taylor,	
x	William F. Kidwell,	Robert I. Taylor,	x
x	Owen Kinslow,	B. Callender White,	
x	William H. Lunt,	Augustus Wall,	x
x	William A. Lovelace,	George Wise,	
x	L. W. McVeigh,	Edgar Warfield,	
x	T. E. McVeigh,	John R. Withers,	
	Francis A. Merchant,	James H. Watkins,	
	George W. Maxwell,	Francis Wood,	
	B. S. Worthington.		

## **MONTHLY DUES.**

The Monthly Dues of this Company are **Twenty-five cents**, instead of Twenty cents, as is heretofore mentioned in the Third Clause of Law Seventh.





